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Revd Amos A Phelps
New York

how soon he comes there, & secure his assistance"

This is all that is said in your Letters, on account of which such a fuss has been made by Mr Grainger. I sincerely hope you will come this way before long, as we all want to see you, and talk with you about our difficulties, & see if there can be any thing done, to urge ~~the~~ forward the cause in this Place. There will be a Host of Dealers coming on from the south in the spring, & we fell anxious to have some preparation made for their receptoon. And I hope they will be greeted as McDuffie would be in some of the large Cities & towns in England & Scotland, should he in his contemplated Travails visit them.

Yours Truly   J Harlow Isbell

Nothing more is said about coming here untill near the close of your Letter, which is as follows. (After requesting me to rouse up the people here on the subject of the admission of Arkansaw into the Union you add), "and the Lord willing, I will be with you Sabbath after next." The next Letter is dated ~~at York~~ Farmington April 23d It commences thus "Dear Sir, Just as I was Leaving New York I receivd a Letter from Mr Granger of which the following is a copy &c." Nothing is said about comming here untill near the close of the letter, ~~it is as follows I shall come to Meriden~~ (except the remark after copying Mr Grangers Letter. "But for the above (that is Mr G's Letter) I should have been with you as proposed in my last.") Then you say "I shall come to Meriden on Thursday & if you will call a Meeting of the friends at your House in the Evening I will be there & help you organize &c."

And now the Letter with regard to Mr Tylers comming here, as Mr G made something criminal of it; It was written as you will perceive, in answer to one written by me to you, requesting you to happen along here during the discussion in the Lyceum, of the Slavery Question. It is as follows "I think it will not be posible for me to happen along through Meriden while your discussion is in progress in the Lyceum, but Revd Mr Tyler of Colebrook has accepted an Agency for us in Connecticut, and will make Middletown his head quarters, & I think you will be able, by enquiring of Hunt in Middletown to find

Mr Phelps Dear Sir Meriden Dec 21st 1836

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I have seen Mr Webb—he told me you wish'd me to send the letter which speaks of your comming here, and as there are 4 of them which treat on this subject, I thought I would copy them at least so much of them as would seem to be necessary for your present purpose. We have had strange times here, & were it not that I think the cause of Emancipation ~~might~~ would in all probability ~~suffer~~ suffer injury by keeping still, I would not have taken the stand I have & still maintain. You know very well how difficult it must be to accomplish any thing so long as our Minister takes the stand he has, and were it not that we have some noble souls in our Church & Society, we should have been driven off our ground. As it is, we maintain it, though at the expence of a great share of our patience, and some of our confidence in our Minister. This to be sure is a grave charge, but circumstances compel me to make it. I think I may safely say, that notwithstanding all the froth & foam, we have been constrain'd to witness here, our confidence in you has not one whit abated, but on the contrary has gained strength. We are at a loss to know what to do, we are at present tied hand & foot, and cannot see how, or in what way we can do much, to help on the cause in our place. We like to have some Lectures, but as soon as there is any thing said about it, It seems as though our Minister would be raving crazy, & there we are, and what to do I dont know ~~what~~ neither are we like to know, as I can see. We heard that Mr Weld was expected in New Haven to Lecture, & we rejoic'd at it, ~~&~~ and concluded we would get all we could to go down & hear him, and I for one had some hopes, that it would ~~soon~~ have such an effect upon us, that we would have some Lectures here any how. It is ~~at~~ little to much for me, to be tied in this way, and I feel the pressure more & more, and what the result will be, I am unable to say: but I hope I shall have grace given me, to act wisely, as I ~~should~~ shall feel was right, when I come to stand at the bar of God, to answer for my conduct.

If I recollect right, when you was here the first time, ~~you told me that you would come at some future time~~ you gave me to understand, that you expected to come here & Lecture at some future time, as will appear by the first letter I shall copy, which is as follows

"Dear Sir. I presume that you wonder at my non-appearance in Meriden. The reason is this— The week before I was intending to be there, I went to Willimantic and was detain'd there so that I could not come that week, & then on my return I found a letter from the Committee requesting me to come immediately to N York as they found it necessary to start a weekly paper, & wish'd me to edit it. Therefore it is that I am now here. When I came I thought I should be able to return & be with you the coming sabbath, but I find that impossible, & I write now to say that if possible I will be with you Sabbath after next & spend Sabbath & Monday with you." This is all that is said in this Letter respecting your comming here or ~~Lecturing~~ Lectureing here. This Letter is dated April 8 & was written in N York. The next Letter I receivd from you is date as follows N York April 14 "Dear Brother, I believe you will think me the strangest being in the world to disappoint you again & yet I am obliged to do so. The reason is the Printer has disappointed me, & so I am obliged to remain here longer than I should otherwise have been obliged to. We are getting out the specimen number of the weekly Emancipator & all